

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, and 11 have been amended. Claims 12-16 are newly presented. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Drawings and Specification

The drawings were objected to as containing minor typographical errors. As indicated by the attached "marked-up" version of drawings, Applicants have amended Figure 1 to include the text "Prior Art" in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Additionally, applicants have amended the specification to include the missing references numerals as indicated by the Examiner. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection is moot. Upon indication of a notice of allowance, Applicant will submit replacement formal drawings for these figures.

Claim Objections

Claims 2, 4, 8, and 9 were objected to as containing a minor typographical errors. Applicants have amended the claims to correct these typographical errors. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection is moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 4 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for containing various informalities. Applicants have amended the claims to correct these informalities. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mirashrafi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,199,096) in view of Busey et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,785,708). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a Web collaborative browsing method that includes sending a created control message to an IRC server over a network such that the IRC server that receives the sent event occurrence control message, transfers the received control message to a plurality of clients participating in said collaborative browsing session opened by the collaborative browsing client. As admitted in the Office Action, on page 5, Mirashrafi fails to

teach or suggest an IRC server. The Office action relies on Busey as allegedly teaching this feature. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Busey merely discloses integrating a chat client with a browser. In Busey, the chat client allows users to receive HTML chat that is integrated with a browser (See, for example, column 4, lines 60 – column 5, line 35 and Figures 4A – 4J). Busey does not teach or suggest an IRC server that distributes an event occurrence control message. Accordingly, at best, the combination of Mirashrafi and Busey would result in synchronized information browsing with an integrated chat client. Accordingly, no combination of Mirashrafi and Busey teach or suggest a Web collaborative browsing method that includes sending a created control message to an IRC server over a network such that the IRC server that receives the sent event occurrence control message, transfers the received control message to a plurality of clients participating in said collaborative browsing session opened by the collaborative browsing client, as recited in claim 1.

Claims 7 and 11 are believed allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 because claims 7 and 11 recite features similar to the features of claim 1 discussed above.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, and 10 are believed allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claims 1 and 7 by virtue of their dependence upon claims 1 and 7. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

B. Claims 4, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mirashrafi in view of Busey and further in view of Esenther (U.S. Application No. 2002/0138624). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 4, 8, and 9 are believed allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claims 1 and 7 by virtue of their dependence upon claims 1 and 7 and because Esenther does not remedy at least the deficiencies of the combination of Mirashrafi and Busey discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

New Claims

Claims 12-16 are newly presented, fully supported by the originally filed specification, and believed allowable over the prior art of record.

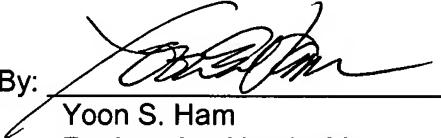
Conclusion

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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In the Drawings

Figure 1 has been amended to include the text "Prior Art". For the Examiner's convenience, a "Marked-Up" version of Figure 1 is attached, showing the changes that were made in red ink. Upon indication of allowance, Applicants will submit replacement formal drawings for Figure 1.